

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-06

NEA-06 ISO-00 L-02 SP-02 H-01 OMB-01 ABF-01 TRSE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 HEW-02 OES-03 EUR-12 AF-04 OIC-02 PA-01

PRS-01 CPR-01 SY-04 USSS-00 VO-03 EA-06 /097 W

----- 116217

R 191924Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5310

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, PORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: PERMREP'S MEETING WITH DG M'BOW

1.SUMMARY. PERMREP MET PRIVATELY WITH DG M'BOW FOR ONE
HALF HOUR ON TUESDAY AND FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR WEDNESDAY
EVENING. WE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL CURRENT PROBLEMS BE-
TWEEN US AND UNESCO, PARTICULARLY SUBSTANCE OF RECENT
RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION PASSED BY CONGRESS. PERMREP
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SHOWED M'BOW A COPY OF LANGUAGE OF CONFERENCE REPORT,

TRANSLATED INTO FRENCH FOR HIS CONVENIENCE. M'BOW WAS CALM AND REASONABLE AT ALL TIMES AND GAVE NO APPEARANCE OF ANY EMOTIONAL RESPONSE. NATURALLY, HE IS MOST DISTRESSED AND DISAPPOINTED AT THE US ACTION. M'BOW CONSIDERS HE HAS BEEN GOOD FRIEND OF US. THAT HE NATURALLY DISPOSED TO FAVOR US AND THAT HE HAS EXERTED EVERY EFFORT TO MODERATE GENERAL CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY THOSE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING ISRAEL. HE, THEREFORE, PARTICULARLY DISTRESSED THAT AFTER SO MUCH EFFORT ON HIS PART AND HIS GENUINE DEMONSTRATION OF SINCERITY, US HAS REACTED IN SUCH WAY AS TO POSSIBLY CRIPPLE ORGANIZATION HE JUST TAKING CHARGE OF.

2. M'BOW, LIKE PERMREP, CONFUSED BY LANGUAGE OF CONFERENCE REPORT AND UNCERTAIN WHAT MEANT BY TERMINOLOGY. SPECIFICALLY, QUOTING REPORT "NO FUNDS SHOULD BE OBLIGATED OR EXPENDED, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO SUPPORT UNESCO UNTIL THE PRESIDENT CERTIFIES TO THE CONGRESS THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS (1) ADOPTED POLICIES WHICH ARE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH ITS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL OBJECTIVES, AND (2) HAS TAKEN CONCRETE STEPS TO CORRECT ITS RECENT ACTIONS OF A PRIMARILY POLITICAL CHARACTER", M'BOW'S FIRST REACTION TO THIS LANGUAGE, AS TRANSLATED INTO FRENCH, WAS TO FEEL THAT IT WILL BE TAKEN AS A THREAT OR "MENACE", USING HIS WORDS, BY MEMBER STATES, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM AFRICA AND THIRD WORLD. THEREFORE, HE URGES US EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO EXPLAIN THAT NO THREAT INTENDED. AS TO WHAT ACTION UNESCO MIGHT TAKE, M'BOW NOT WILLING TO SPECULATE AT THIS TIME AND FEELS THERE MUST BE TIME FOR THE "DUST TO SETTLE". HE DID STATE THAT IF LANGUAGE OF CONFERENCE REPORT BECOMES WIDELY KNOWN, HE DOUBTS THAT EXECUTIVE BOARD WOULD REACT FAVORABLY TO ANY RESOLUTION WHICH COULD BE SAID TO BE OFFERED IN RESPONSE TO US THREAT. M'BOW DISPLAYED A SENSE OF GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE AND DIGNITY AND STATED HE, AS AN AFRICAN AND AS DG, WOULD NOT BE PERSONALLY HUMILIATED BY HAVING TO YIELD TO THREAT OR PRESSURE WHICH UNJUST.

3. M'BOW GAVE PERMREP VERBATIM RECORD OF AN INTERVIEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH AN ISRAELI JOURNALIST WHICH HE SAYS ADEQUATELY EXPLAINS HIS POSITION VIS-A-VIS ISRAEL. COPY THIS INTERVIEW BEING SENT BY SEPARATE CABLE.

4. M'BOW THEN WENT OVER HIS IMMEDIATE PLANS. HE STATED THAT IN JANUARY, THE USUAL LETTER ASKING FOR PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENT WILL GO OUT. IF THE US RESPONDS NEGATIVELY HE WILL THEN BRING THE MATTER BEFORE THE SPRING MEETING

OF EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ASK FOR DIRECTIONS. HE DID NOT
STATE HE WOULD CALL A SPECIAL SESSION THE BOARD OR THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE. M'BOW STATED HE WOULD ATTEMPT MAKE
UP ANY SHORTFALL THROUGH VOLUNTARY NON-INTEREST BEARING
LOANS FROM MEMBER STATES.

5. PERMREP ASKED FUTURE OF AMERICANS IN THE SECRETARIAT
IF US DOES NOT PAY ITS ASSESSMENT. M'BOW STATED HE WOULD
IN NO WAY PENALIZE AMERICANS FOR ACTIONS OF THE USG AND
WOULD CONTINUE TO HIRE AMERICANS QUALIFIED FOR POSITIONS.
HE HOPED AMERICANS WOULD CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE

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ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATE IN ITS ACTIVITIES.

6. M'BOW INTENDS TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION FROM THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF EDUCATION TO SPEAK IN WASHINGTON ON FEBRUARY 27 OR 28TH, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED BY PHONE. HE HOPES THIS AN OCCASION FOR HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS IN US, BUT STATED HE WOULD ONLY DO SO ON INVITATION OF USG. IF NO INVITATION WERE FORTHCOMING, HE WOULD FEEL IT INAPPROPRIATE TO TAKE INITIATIVE AND WOULD GIVE HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPEECH AND RETURN. M'BOW SINCERELY HOPES AN INVITATION WILL COME FORTH AND THAT MEETINGS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL, CONSISTENT WITH HIS RANK AS DG, CAN BE ARRANGED.

7. M'BOW IS BEING FLOODED WITH INVITATIONS TO VISIT VARIOUS COUNTRIES. HE STATED THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA HAVE INVITED HIM AND HE INTENDS ACCEPT. M'BOW WILL VISIT JAPAN IN JANUARY AND THEN GO TO CHINA AND THE USSR. M'BOW STATED HE EXPECTS TO BE RECEIVED BY CHAIRMAN MAO IN CHINA AND TO MEET WITH CHINESE LEADERS AT THE HIGHEST

LEVEL. HE INDICATED THE SOVIETS HAVE EXTENDED HIM AN INVITATION AND THAT HE CAN EXPECT TO BE RECEIVED BY BREJNEV AND KOSYGN. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, M'BOW LEAVES TO-

DAY TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA FOR A MEETING WITH KING FAISAL. HE HAS ALREADY MET WITH PRESIDENT TITO, AND KING HASSAN. M'BOW STATED HE WILL MAKE NO SPECIAL EFFORT TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE ARABS.

8. COMMENT: M'BOW APPEARED CONFIDENT AND SELF ASSURED. HE IS A PROUD MAN, IN A DIFFICULT POSITION BUT INTENT ON FACING AND DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. HE WILL NOT DO ANYTHING THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER PERSONALLY HUMILIATING OR DEMEANING TO HIMSELF OR UNESCO. HE WOULD BE OFFENDED IF SNUBBED BY US AS HE FEELS HE HAS MADE A GENUINE AND SINCERE EFFORT TO HOLD OUT HAND OF FRIENDSHIP AND APPEARS WILLING TO DO ANYTHING WITHIN REASON TO INSURE US CONTINUANCE IN THE ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, IS CLEAR HE, FOR FIRST TIME, BEGINNING TO THINK OF A UNESCO WITHOUT US. HE SEEMS TO FEEL THAT EVEN IF USG DID NOT PAY ITS ASSESSMENT, THERE ARE INDIVIDUAL AMERICANS WHO WOULD STILL WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN UNESCO ACTIVITIES AND THAT HE WOULD STILL HAVE SUBSTANTIAL US PRESENCE. SEES THREAT OF US ACTION AS GOING BEYOND UNESCO AND AFFECTING ENTIRE

UN SYSTEM. HE STRESSED UNESCO CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM
UN. PERMREP FEELS M'BOW SHOULD BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY
TO PRESENT HIS CASE IN US. HIS ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN
ATTACKED WITH NO RIGHT OF REPLY, WHICH CON-
TRARY TO US PRINCIPLES FAIR PLAY. THEREFORE, M'BOW
SHOULD BE EXTENDED A FORMAL INVITATION TO COME TO THE
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US BY USG AND SHOULD BE RECEIVED WITH THE COURTESY AND
DIGNITY BEFITTING A DG OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA-
TION. HE SHOULD BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND TALK
WITH CONGRESSIONAL, ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL LEADERS.
THIS MAY HELP CLEAR AIR AND WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH US
TRADITIONS OF LISTENING TO BOTH SIDES OF STORY. TO
ACCORD HIM LESS THAN FAIR PLAY AND RESPECT CAN ONLY OF-
FEND HIM AND THROUGH HIM NON-WHITES, PARTICULARLY AF-
RICANS. M'BOW BY NATURE CONSERVATIVE AND VERY PRO-AMERI-
CAN. WE HAVE A LASTING AND FAST FRIEND WHO NOW INFLU-
ENTIAL IN SO-CALLED THIRD WORLD AND WHO WILL BECOME MORE
INFLUENTIAL AS TIME GOES BY. THIS AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO
THROW AWAY AND WHIF LOSTCH CAN ONLY CAUSE DAMAGE TO US INTER-
EST OVER LONG RUN
RUSH

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